NUMB. XLII.] THE [MAY 12 1787.

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

Price SIX-PENCE.] SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1787. [VOL. I.

PITTSBURGH: *Printed and Sold by* JOHN SCULL and JOHN BOYD, *at their Printing-Office in Water-ſtreet, near the Ferry.*

To the INHABITANTS of the WESTERN COUNTRY, by HUGH HENRY BRACKENRIDGE.

(Continued from our laſt.)

I COME now to give ſome account of another great object which came before the houſe: it was during the firſt ſeſſion, and founded on a motion made by me, to the following effect; viz. *To remit the trials on caveats entered in the land office, to the courts and juries of the reſpective counties.* In ſupport of this motion, the following were my obſervations.

"By the 11th article of the Bill of rights it is provided, *that, in controverſies reſpecting property, and, in ſuits between man and man, the parties have a right to trial by jury, which ought to be held ſacred.* And, by the 25th ſection of the conſtitution, it is alſo eſtabliſhed, that *trials ſhall be by jury as heretofore.* How is it then, that in one great caſe, which reſpects *real property*, we are drawn, ad aliud examen, to another tribunal? In one great caſe, viz. *who ſhall be the patentee of a tract of land ſurveyed and returned to the office, where two or more claim a right to the patent.* This is determinable by what is called the *board of property*, conſiſting of the ſecretary, the ſurveyor general, and receiver general of the land office. It lies with theſe three officers to ſay to whom the commonwealth ſhall grant the land. A warrant of ſurvey has iſſued from the office: a ſurvey has been made and returned, in the name of A----; B. files a memorandum in the office, and bids *beware that a patent iſſue until he be heard.*---- This is called the caveat. On this, either party may demand from the office a copy of this caveat, and ſerve it, with a notice endorſed of the day of trial at the office. The records are inſpected, the depoſitions read, or the witneſſes examined by the board, and judgment is given. In conſequence of this judgment, and on paying the purchaſe money, the *patent* iſſues. Of what force and operation is the patent? *It is the grant of the ſtate, and is concluſive evidence of title*

It was not always ſo: have we not heard of the *right of occupancy, the right of ſettlement*? Have we not ſeen the plaintiff prevail in courts of juſtice where he had no patent or office right whatever. Have we not known the defendant to hold his land, where he had nothing but his bare reſidence and *improvement*; melioration of the ſoil, to plead in his defence, againſt a *warrant, a ſurvey*, and a *patent itſelf*. The broad ſeal of the ſtate, was in vain held up; it was conſidered as void.

It may have been ſo, in *ſepecial caſes, in ſome of the old counties, and ſo high up as Cumberland*; but founded, not on general law, but on *temporary and local circumſtances*. What were theſe?

About the year 1786, William Penn died, and his heirs were minors. Titles could not be granted; but Logan, the proprietary agent, gave encouragement to ſettlers, by aſſuring them of his confidence in the juſtice of the proprietors, that when of age, they would give the title to thoſe who had ſettled. Under this circumſtance ſettlements were made, and the column of population was puſhed to the weſtward.---- Hence it was that *occupancy* or *ſettlement* become a title. It was decided in a famous caſe, in Cumberland, before Benjamin Chow, chief juſtice, that during this period, viz. the *minority of the proprietors*, the ſettler and improver of the ſoil, *had a title even againſt the heirs of William Penn; and were there a court of chancery in Pennſylvania, it would decree that a patent ſhould be granted*; that the heirs of William Penn muſt have recourſe to an action at law to recover the purchaſe money.

In the deciſion of this famous caſe, certain principles were eſtabliſhed which ſhould govern in all claims on this principle of occupancy and improvement.---- viz. That where a fair and actual ſettlement had been made, no poſterior warrant, ſurvey, or even patent, ſhould take the land; that the ſettler ſhould have a right to 318 acres, and, that, in ſuch length and breadth around his improvement as reaſon would determine; or where lines were agreed upon amongſt the ſettlers, theſe ſhould be the boundaries of the reſpective tracts occupied.

After the proprietors were of age, another circumſtance continued and extended the claim by occupancy; viz. the diſpute with the proprietor of Maryland reſpecting boundary. This affected chiefly that country which is the moſt weſterly part of York county and Cumberland.

Settlers were countenanced in this territory in order to reſiſt the impreſſion of ſettlers under Maryland. They were prohibited by no law; they were reſtrained by no proclamation. In all applications for warrants of ſurvey, preference was given to the ſettler. Nay, in the courts of juſtice, warrants, ſurveys and patents were held void againſt the ſettler. He was conſidered as the ſtrength of the ſtate; his improvement made the wealth and agrandizement of it, and rendered the neighbourhood and unappropriated ſoil more valuable

Hence it was that *right by occupancy and improvement* become terms well known in Pennſylvania; that the principle governed in the courts of juſtice; that it became the local and peculiar uſſage of Pennſylvania.

It is true that before the purchaſe of 1768, a law was enacted prohibiting ſettlements on any lands not purchaſed of the Indians, *except on main roads or communications leading through this province to Fort Pitt, under the approbation and permiſſion of the commander in chief of his majeſties forces in North America. or of the chief officer commanding in the weſtern diſtrict to the Ohio, for the time being, for the more convenient accommodation of the ſoldiery and others, or to ſuch perſon or perſons as are or ſhall be ſettled in the neighbourhood of Fort Pitt, under the approbation and permiſſion*, &c. A proclamation alſo iſſued in conſequence of this law, reciting it, and commanding the ſettlers to remove who had treſpaſſed on the Indian grounds contrary to the intention of it. This proclamation was dated the 24th of February, 1768, and was before the purchaſe was made at Fort Stanwix.

The law and proclamation reſpected territory *not purchaſed of the Indians*. This ſeemed to be the ſpecial reaſon of it. The maxim is, ceſſante ratione, ceſſat et ipſa lex. The reaſon ceaſing, the law alſo ceaſes. In the winter, and during ſome part of the ſpring of 1769, emigrants paſſed the mountains, and ſettled in the weſtern country. They came with the ſame ideas reſpecting title to real property, which they had received where they had before reſided. There was no law enacted declaring this a treſpaſs, or proclamation of the governor of the province; there was nothing ſaid by the proprietors announcing their determination no longer to admit the claim of occupancy in any part of their territory.

At the opening of the office, April 3, 1769, it was announced and remains of record, that in caſe of two or more applications for the ſame tract, preference ſhould be given to *the ſettler*, more eſpecially to *thoſe who had ſettled* before the purchaſe. Thus a ſettlement, even contrary to law, and in the face of a proclamation, is countenanced; nay, leaſt there ſhould be any doubt about it; as there naturally might, it is more eſpecially favoured. Thus, the ancient *uſſage*, which had prevailed for half a century, is recognized, and brought into view. Every man who had made a ſettlement, thought himſelf ſecure in the poſſeſſion of his farm. Under this idea the whole country was peopled. Under this idea land was bought and ſold, deſcended from father to ſon; and changed poſſeſſors every way. Under this idea ejectments have been brought, verdicts have been given, and judgments of the court have confirmed thoſe verdicts.

On all trials there were the queſtions; what is the date of improvement? With what intention was it made? was it that of making it a place of reſidence? was it merely to have a pretence of claiming the poſſeſſion? Was the improvement purſued? and of what nature is it at the preſent day? What were the lines agreed upon amongſt the ſettlers? and are thoſe lines treſpaſſed by the defendant. On the other hand, what is the location or warrant which is ſet up? is it deſignatory of the ground in queſtion? is it prior to the ſettlement, &c. The location or warrant, the ſurvey returned and accepted; or even the patent were not concluſive evidence of title. All things were examinable ab origine, before a court and jury.

For even with reſpect to office rights, the moment a warrant was iſſued, a title was ſuppoſed to be veſted, and the patent was no more than a *confirmation* of it. Patent of *confirmation*, is the term uſed in the office and in our laws.

Hence it was, that the board of property, under the old government, continued to exerciſe this diſcretion, of determining on behalf of the proprietor, to whom, on the return of any ſurvey, the patent ſhould iſſue. This power they exerciſed not in a *judicial capacity*, but as the granters, the proprietors themſelves being then agents, and determining on their own acts what it behoved them to do, and what not. It was making the proprietors judges in their cauſe, to ſay who ſhould have the land in queſtion, provided the deciſion of this board, and the patent iſſuing, ſhould be conſidered as concluſive evidence of title. Even ſuppoſing that the granters could themſelves be judges in this caſe, by their officers, yet the advantage of eſtabliſhing facts by a jury, would be loſt to the citizen, and this would be contrary to the magna charta of Britiſh liberties.

Under the commonwealth the ſame doctrine muſt take place. The ſtate with reſpect to old titles, is in the place of the late proprietors, and with reſpect to new titles, it is immediately *the granter*. *Commencement of rights* in many caſes under the old government, as well as under the new, is brought forward by the parties, and patents are demanded. It lies with the ſtate, by her agents, the officers of the land office, to give the patent in order to receive the purchaſe money. But this is not conſidered as concluſive evidence of title. Still a ſuit may be inſtituted, and the whole merits are determined by a jury. Why therefore a neceſſity of remiting it to a court and jury in the firſt inſtance to determine on caveats entered, to whom the patent ſhall be made out?

True, if this was the doctrine of the law; if it was the deciſion of the courts; if the *merits of the whole caſe were examinable, after a determination of the board of property*; if it were ſo, I ſhould not have given this houſe the trouble of this motion. But it is well known in the *weſtern country*, that however ancient the doctrine of title by improvement; however founded, or pretended to be, in political neceſſity, conveniency, advantage, proſperity, ſtrength, population, wealth, liberty or happineſs of the government; however regarded by juries, ſanctioned by verdicts, and confirmed by judgment of courts; or, however [illegible] peculiar uſſage of Pennſylvania, yet the doctrine has been for above eighteen months exploded. At the firſt ſitting of the courts of Niſi prius in that country, it was ſhaken, by the late deciſions, it is taken away altogether. *A patent bona fide obtained, that is without ſurpriſe or fraud, provided it is for the land in queſtion, will prevail.*

This has produced, and will produce great change of the poſſeſſion of property in the weſtern country.---- For 16 years ſince the firſt ſettlement of it, the contrary ideas had prevailed, and transference of real eſtates, for valuable conſiderations, had paſſed through many hands. But in conſequence of this deciſion, ſleeping applications; dormant warrants, have come into view. The ſettlers have been ſwept away. They have gone to Kentucky, to Cumberland river, and to other places. It ſuits them beſt. They have been accuſtomed to the rough earth. Thoſe who come after them are a more delicate race of men; it would not ſuit them to do the firſt druggery. By a ſurvey which was never ſeen; by a warrant of juvenile years; theſe now enjoy the labours of half a generation.

To prevent this as much as poſſible in the weſtern country, is my object How prevent it? Not by revolting the deciſions of the courts; for that we cannot do. Not by an act of the legiſlature required by ſome petitions from the weſtern country reſpecting eſpecial rights, for that, it is thought by the committee who have reported on the ſubject, would be *retroſpective*. No; but by remitting it, in the firſt inſtance, to the courts and judges to hear caveats and determine to whom patents ſhall iſſue; at the ſame time giving them ſuch latitude of examining the merits of ſettlement and office as may be conſiſtent with former uſſage.

It will be obſerved, that the motion I have made, reſpects ſolely the weſtern country; viz. that part of Pennſylvania which lies within the purchaſe of 1768; for it is in this tract only that the local and peculiar uſſage of Pennſylvania, of admitting teſtimony of ſettlement is at all queſtioned.

But for another reaſon; the deciſion with reſpect to the patentees of land, ought to be within the counties; viz. the inconvenience to the *common people to attend at this diſtance* (Philadelphia) *and the expence of attending*. It is needleſs to repreſent this in a particular manner.

It muſt be obvious to every one, of what great advantage it would be to have caſes determined in the

country, rather than be under the neceſſity of going three hundred miles; expending, by this means, the ſmall ſum any one might have collected to purchaſe neceſſaries of life; and loſing, in the mean while, the time which ought to be employed in the cultivation of the farm. I have known ſome to give up their claims altogether, rather than proſecute them under ſuch unfavourable circumſtances."

The queſtion was now put. The motion carried, and committed.

It will be obſerved, that the motion made by me was founded in ſome degree on the deciſion by the court of niſi prius in the weſtern country, viz. that a patent obtained *without ſurpriſe or fraud is concluſive evidence of title.* For let all things be examinable after the patent is granted and the neceſſity of the motion is taken away.

Gentlemen of legal knowledge and long practice, with whom I converſed after this motion, were of opinion, that this deciſion of the court was wrong; that it was a change of the law of Pennſylvania, and ought to be combatted with every poſſible oppoſition. That the firſt cauſe that ſhould occur, in which ſuch deciſion ſhould be given, ought to be removed to the *high court of errors and appeals.* That certainly before that court this determination would be reverſed. They were of opinion that ſhould the houſe accede to the motion, it would ſeem to give a ſanction to this deciſion of the court. That it would be more ſafe to permit things to proceed in the wonted channel, by a deciſion before the board, and afterwards by an enquiry into the whole merits before a court and jury: Theſe reaſonings had weight with me, but ſtill more a conviction that all things conſidered, I ſhould not be able to carry the motion in the houſe. The novel nature of it;------founded on reaſoning which a few of the houſe could underſtand; and there being non-reſident owners of lands who would dread the verdicts of our juries. All theſe circumſtances were oppoſed to the motion. It therefore became good policy in me, by ſhifting the ground, to endeavour to accompliſh the ſame thing by another way.

Some conſiderable time afterwards, and during the firſt ſeſſion, I acquainted the houſe, ſpecially and plainly, with what had occured to my own mind, and what had been ſaid to me by gentlemen of great profeſſional knowledge and practice in Pennſylvania, with reſpect to the motion I had made. That all things conſidered, I had thought not to preſs it on the houſe for the preſent; but to make another motion which might in a great degree anſwer the ſame end, and would be leſs liable to exception on account of novelty, or deviation from the practice of Pennſylvania heretofore eſtabliſhed; that was, *to eſtabliſh a board of property in the weſtern counties*, whoſe deciſion ſhould be final only as to the granting the patent, leaving the merits to be determinable before a court and jury. It was reaſonable that ſuch a board ſhould be eſtabliſhed; becauſe the weſtern country pays its proportion towards ſupporting the board in Philadelphia. A board to the weſtward may be conſtituted of ſome of the principal men of the ſeveral counties, who have reſided in the country, and know the peculiar ſituation of the caſes which occur. But more eſpecially, at all events, one great evil will be obviated, the time and expence of attending at ſo great a diſtance. The motion being made, it was agreed and committed.

This was a ſhort time before the end of the firſt ſeſſion.

During the receſs of the houſe, I applyed myſelf with great diligence to draw up a bill for the purpoſe above mentioned. Having ſketched the outlines of one, I ſubmitted it to David Redick, of the council, of whoſe judgment I had a good opinion, as he was well acquainted with the ſituation of our country, and had himſelf conſiderable experience in theſe matters. I requeſted him to lay my draft before the chief juſtice of the ſtate. Mr. Redick, after ſome time, returned me the draft, and expreſſed himſelf well ſatisfied with the principles of it, and alſo informed me, that the chief juſtice had mentioned to him, that he himſelf, (the chief juſtice) had ſpent ſix weeks on this very ſubject, *the conſtituting a board for the weſtern country*, in the year 1781, at the firſt opening of the office; that this might be ſtill on the files of the houſe, and if I could find it, I might derive ſome advantage from it in framing that which I was about to introduce.

Having drawn up a bill under theſe advantages, I introduced it to the houſe on its firſt meeting, that no time might be loſt; I read it, and prayed leave to preſent it. It was judged by the houſe more adviſeable to remit it to the *committee* who had been appointed for that purpoſe. The truth was, I had deſpaired of obtaining a report of the committee in my favor, it happening, unfortunately, to conſiſt of members, viz. George Clymer, of Philadelphia, and Samuel Evans, of Cheſter county, whom in converſation I had found to be rather oppoſed to an idea of this kind. It was my opinion, if I could get it fairly brought before the houſe, with the aſſiſtance of our weſtern members, it might be carried. It was for this reaſon I introduced the bill * in the firſt inſtance to the houſe.

However, finding it now to be wholly in the firſt inſtance with the committee, I called upon them as men of reaſon to hear me on the ſubject. The additional expence to the government was a conſiderable argument againſt it. It was ſaid that the ſupporting a board for our particular uſe in the weſtern country, and the copying the papers which reſpected our affairs, would take away half the taxes we paid, and the ſtate could not afford it at preſent.

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* B I L L.

Section 1. Whereas on the return of any ſurvey to the land office of this ſtate, it is allowable, that a caveat be entered againſt the iſſuing a patent to thoſe for whom the ſurvey is made: and whereas, it is inconvenient to the inhabitants of thoſe parts of this ſtate, which lie remote from the ſeat of government, where the ſaid office is kept, to come before the ſaid officers at Philadelphia, to have their claims on the caveat ſo entered, heard and determined.

And whereas alſo it is expeditnt, that all claims of this nature be ſpeedily determined, in order that patents may iſſue, and the ſtate receive the purchaſe money of the lands.

Sect. 2. Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania, in general aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That
ſhall be and are hereby appointed commiſſioners, to ſit in the town of Pittſburgh, from of which ſitting, and for what county or diſtrict of any county, they ſhall at any time ſit, due notice ſhall be given; and the ſaid commiſſioners ſhall hear and determine all caveats which have been or ſhall be entered on any ſurvey made, or to be made, within the ſaid counties, and which have not yet been heard or determined by the officers of the land office, and the determination of the ſaid commiſſioners, ſhall have a like effect with the determination of the officers of the land office of this ſtate on caveats entered, and on a citation from the ſaid commiſſioners, by one of the parties in ſaid caveat to the other, and ſervice, with reaſonable notice to the ſaid party, proved before the ſaid commiſſioners, a certificate of this citation and notice ſhall iſſue, and on producing ſaid certificate, under the hand of the ſaid commiſſioners, to the officers of the land office, a patent ſhall iſſue to thoſe applying, the caveats before entered notwithſtanding; and alſo on producing a certificate of the determination of the ſaid commiſſioners on any caveat entered, a patent ſhall iſſue to the party in whoſe favor the determination has been made.

Sect. 3. And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That on any point ariſing with reſpect to the legality of evidence, or other law point, or in the arrangement of papers and ſtatement of facts, the parties ſhall have the benefit of council, if they ſhall ſo chooſe.

Sect. 4. Provided nevertheleſs, that the determination of the ſaid commiſſioners, and a patent iſſuing, ſhall not preclude the bringing an ejectment, on the trial of which, the whole merits ſhall be brought into view before a court and jury, and where the verdict ſhall be againſt thoſe who ſhall have obtained the patent, and they ſhall be diſpoſed to reſt ſatisfied, they ſhall obtain a rule of the court where the ejectment has been tried, and before judgment ſhall be entered on the ſaid verdict, to the parties in whoſe favor the verdict may have been, to ſhew cauſe why judgment ſhall not be entered upon the records of the ſaid court, at the ſame time for the purchaſe money paid on receiving the patent, in favor of him who ſhall have obtained the patent, and againſt him in whoſe favor the verdict ſhall have been, the ſaid putchaſe money to be aſſeſſed by the court on the vouchers laid before them, with ſtay at the diſcretion of the court; and the holder of the patent ſhall aſſign it to him in whoſe favor the verdict is.

Sect. 5. Provided nevertheleſs, that this clauſe providing for the repayment of the purchaſe money, ſhall apply only in caſes where only one of the parties ſhall have taken out a patent.

Sect. 6. Provided alſo, that there ſhall be no citation before the ſaid commiſſioners, unleſs in caſes where the parties reſide within the counties aforeſaid.

Sect. 7. And whereas there are many individuals within the ſaid counties, who have ſettled upon lands ſince the opening of the office in 1769, and have continued through the war to improve and defend them the ſaid lands, and nevertheleſs in ſome caſes the title may be found againſt them, on trial at law.

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania in general aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That in all caſes where the defendant in any ejectment, has been an actual ſettler of the land in queſtion, and before the year 1776, and on trial a verdict is found againſt him, the jury taking into view the value of improvement, the knowledge of the plaintiff's title, the warning to depart and all other circumſtances, ſhall aſſeſs ſuch ſum as they ſhall judge equitable, and for ſuch ſum judgment ſhall be confeſſed to the defendant by the plaintiff, and with ſtay at the diſcretion of the court, before judgment ſhall be ſigned in favor of the plaintiff in ejectment, on the verdict aforeſaid.

Sect. 8. And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid commiſſioners, in their deciſions, ſhall pay regard to permits, agreeable to a proclamation of Feb. 24, 1768; and alſo to improvements, agreeable to the declaration of the late proprietors at the opening of the office in 1769.

Sect. 9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That there ſhall be paid to each of the ſaid commiſſioners hereby appointed, the ſum of fifteen ſhillings for each day they ſhall ſo ſit on the ſaid buſineſs, out of the treaſury of this commonwealth, and ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence ſhall be paid to the ſaid commiſſioners on every certificate by them granted, by the party in whoſe favor it is granted.

N. B. There were ſeveral things in this bill, with reſpect to the propriety of which I was not perfectly certain, but they might be the ſubject of conſideration with the houſe. To negative the bill wholly, ſo that we could have a board of property under no ſhape, was what I did not expect from Findley.

However, ſuch were the arguments I uſed, that they acknowledged themſelves convinced of the propriety of it, and gave me a report in its favor. It was as follows:

"The committee on the motion for appointing a board of commiſſioners of property in the weſtern parts of the ſtate, to hear and determine caveats entered in the land office on ſurveys, report,

That as from the great diſtance of the three weſtern counties of Fayette, Weſtmoreland and Waſhington, from the ſeat of government, it may be inconvenient to the inhabitants of the counties to attend in this city, on the hearing and determining on caveats, ſo entered, the committee offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill appointing a board of commiſſioners for the three counties of Fayette, Weſtmoreland, and Waſhington, to ſit in ſome one place in the ſaid counties, to hear and determine on caveats entered, where the parties reſide within the ſaid counties."

This report being read, was ordered to lie on the table.

A ſhort time after I called for a ſecond reading of this report. I had no doubt but all the weſtern members, with what intereſt they could make, would be in favor of the report. I believe the greater part of them were in favor of it. However, the queſtion was loſt by a ſmall majority.

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(To be continued.)

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country, rather than be under the neceſſity of going three hundred miles; expending, by this means, the ſmall ſum any one might have collected to purchaſe neceſſaries of life; and loſing, in the mean while, the time which ought to be employed in the cultivation of the farm. I have known ſome to give up their claims altogether, rather than proſecute them under ſuch unfavourable circumſtances."

The queſtion was now put. The motion carried, and committed.

It will be obſerved, that the motion made by me was founded in ſome degree on the deciſion by the court of niſi prius in the weſtern country, viz. that a patent obtained *without ſurpriſe or fraud is concluſive evidence of title.* For let all things be examinable after the patent is granted and the neceſſity of the motion is taken away.

Gentlemen of legal knowledge and long practice, with whom I converſed after this motion, were of opinion, that this deciſion of the court was wrong; that it was a change of the law of Pennſylvania, and ought to be combatted with every poſſible oppoſition. That the firſt cauſe that ſhould occur, in which ſuch deciſion ſhould be given, ought to be removed to the *high court of errors and appeals.* That certainly before that court this determination would be reverſed. They were of opinion that ſhould the houſe accede to the motion, it would ſeem to give a ſanction to this deciſion of the court. That it would be more ſafe to permit things to proceed in the wonted channel, by a deciſion before the board, and afterwards by an enquiry into the whole merits before a court and jury: Theſe reaſonings had weight with me, but ſtill more a conviction that all things conſidered, I ſhould not be able to carry the motion in the houſe. The novel nature of it;------founded on reaſoning which a few of the houſe could underſtand; and there being non-reſident owners of lands who would dread the verdicts of our juries. All theſe circumſtances were oppoſed to the motion. It therefore became good policy in me, by ſhifting the ground, to endeavour to accompliſh the ſame thing by another way.

Some conſiderable time afterwards, and during the firſt ſeſſion, I acquainted the houſe, ſpecially and plainly, with what had occured to my own mind, and what had been ſaid to me by gentlemen of great profeſſional knowledge and practice in Pennſylvania, with reſpect to the motion I had made. That all things conſidered, I had thought not to preſs it on the houſe for the preſent; but to make another motion which might in a great degree anſwer the ſame end, and would be leſs liable to exception on account of novelty, or deviation from the practice of Pennſylvania heretofore eſtabliſhed; that was, *to eſtabliſh a board of property in the weſtern counties*, whoſe deciſion ſhould be final only as to the granting the patent, leaving the merits [illegible] before a court and jury. It was reaſonable that ſuch a board ſhould be eſtabliſhed; becauſe the weſtern country pays its proportion towards ſupporting the board in Philadelphia. A board to the weſtward may be conſtituted of ſome of the principal men of the ſeveral counties, who have reſided in the country, and know the peculiar ſituation of the caſes which occur. But more eſpecially, at all events, one great evil will be obviated, the time and expence of attending at ſo great a diſtance. The motion being made, it was agreed and committed.

This was a ſhort time before the end of the firſt ſeſſion.

During the receſs of the houſe, I applyed myſelf with great diligence to draw up a bill for the purpoſe above mentioned. Having ſketched the outlines of one, I ſubmitted it to David Redick, of the council, of whoſe judgment I had a good opinion, as he was well acquainted with the ſituation of our country, and had himſelf conſiderable experience in theſe matters. I requeſted him to lay my draft before the chief juſtice of the ſtate. Mr. Redick, after ſome time, returned me the draft, and expreſſed himſelf well ſatisfied with the principles of it, and alſo informed me, that the chief juſtice had mentioned to him, that he himſelf, (the chief juſtice) had ſpent ſix weeks on this very ſubject, *the conſtituting a board for the weſtern country*, in the year 1781, at the firſt opening of the office; that this might be ſtill on the files of the houſe, and if I could find it, I might derive ſome advantage from it in framing that which I was about to introduce.

Having drawn up a bill under theſe advantages, I introduced it to the houſe on its firſt meeting, that no time might be loſt; I read it, and prayed leave to preſent it. It was judged by the houſe more adviſeable to remit it to the *committee* who had been appointed for that purpoſe. The truth was, I had deſpaired of obtaining a report of the committee in my favor, it happening, unfortunately, to conſiſt of members, viz. George Clymer, of Philadelphia, and Samuel Evans, of Cheſter county, whom in converſation I had found to be rather oppoſed to an idea of this kind. It was my opinion, if I could get it fairly brought before the houſe, with the aſſiſtance of our weſtern members, it might be carried. It was for this reaſon I introduced the bill * in the firſt inſtance to the houſe.

However, finding it now to be wholly in the firſt inſtance with the committee, I called upon them as men of reaſon to hear me on the ſubject. The additional eloquence to the government was a conſiderable argument againſt it. It was ſaid that the ſupporting a board for our particular uſe in the weſtern country, and the copying the papers which reſpected our affairs, would take away half the taxes we paid, and the ſtate could not afford it at preſent.

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* B I L L.

Section 1. Whereas on the return of any ſurvey to the land office of this ſtate, it is allowable, that a caveat be entered againſt the iſſuing a patent to thoſe for whom the ſurvey is made: and whereas, it is inconvenient to the inhabitants of thoſe parts of this ſtate, which lie remote from the ſeat of government, where the ſaid office is kept, to come before the ſaid officers at Philadelphia, to have their claims on the caveat ſo entered, heard and determined.

And whereas alſo it is expeditnt, that all claims of this nature be ſpeedily determined, in order that patents may iſſue, and the ſtate receive the purchaſe money of the lands.

Sect. 2. Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania, in general aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That
ſhall be and are hereby appointed commiſſioners, to ſit in the town of Pittſburgh, from of which
ſitting, and for what county or diſtrict of any county, they ſhall at any time ſit, due notice ſhall be given; and the ſaid commiſſioners ſhall hear and determine all caveats which have been or ſhall be entered on any ſurvey made, or to be made, within the ſaid counties, and which have not yet been heard or determined by the officers of the land office, and the determination of the ſaid commiſſioners, ſhall have a like effect with the determination of the officers of the land office of this ſtate on caveats entered, and on a citation from the ſaid commiſſioners, by one of the parties in ſaid caveat to the other, and ſervice, with reaſonable notice to the ſaid party, proved before the ſaid commiſſioners, a certificate of this citation and notice ſhall iſſue, and on producing ſaid certificate, under the hand of the ſaid commiſſioners, to the officers of the land office, a patent ſhall iſſue to thoſe applying, the caveats before entered notwithſtanding; and alſo on producing a certificate of the determination of the ſaid commiſſioners on any caveat entered, a patent ſhall iſſue to the party in whoſe favor the determination has been made.

Sect. 3. And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That on any point ariſing with reſpect to the legality of evidence, or other law point, or in the arrangement of papers and ſtatement of facts, the parties ſhall have the benefit of council, if they ſhall ſo chooſe.

Sect. 4. Provided nevertheleſs, that the determination of the ſaid commiſſioners, and a patent iſſuing, ſhall not preclude the bringing an ejectment, on the trial of which, the whole merits ſhall be brought into view before a court and jury, and where the verdict ſhall be againſt thoſe who ſhall have obtained the patent, and they ſhall be diſpoſed to reſt ſatisfied, they ſhall obtain a rule of the court where the ejectment has been tried, and before judgment ſhall be entered on the ſaid verdict, to the parties in whoſe favor the verdict may have been, to ſhew cauſe why judgment ſhall not be entered upon the records of the ſaid court, at the ſame time for the purchaſe money paid on receiving the patent, in favor of him who ſhall have obtained the patent, and againſt him in whoſe favor the verdict ſhall have been, the ſaid purchaſe money to be aſſeſſed by the court on the vouchers laid before them, with ſtay at the diſcretion of the court; and the holder of the patent ſhall aſſign it to him in whoſe favor the verdict is.

Sect. 5. Provided nevertheleſs, that this clauſe providing for the repayment of the purchaſe money, ſhall apply only in caſes where only one of the parties ſhall have taken out a patent.

Sect. 6. Provided alſo, that there ſhall be no citation before the ſaid commiſſioners, unleſs in caſes where the parties reſide within the counties aforeſaid.

Sect. 7. And whereas there are many individuals within the ſaid counties, who have ſettled upon lands ſince the opening of the office in 1769, and have continued through the war to improve and defend them the ſaid lands, and nevertheleſs in ſome caſes the title may be found againſt them, on trial at law.

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania in general aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That in all caſes where the defendant in any ejectment, has been an actual ſettler of the land in queſtion, and before the year 1776, and on trial a verdict is found againſt him, the jury taking into view the value of improvement, the knowledge of the plaintiff's title, the warning to depart and all other circumſtances, ſhall aſſeſs ſuch ſum as they ſhall judge equitable, and for ſuch ſum judgment ſhall be confeſſed to the defendant by the plaintiff, and with ſtay at the diſcretion of the court, before judgment ſhall be ſigned in favor of the plaintiff in ejectment, on the verdict aforeſaid.

Sect. 8. And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid commiſſioners, in their deciſions, ſhall pay regard to permits, agreeable to a proclamation of Feb. 24, 1768; and alſo to improvements, agreeable to the declaration of the late proprietors at the opening of the office in 1769.

Sect. 9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That there ſhall be paid to each of the ſaid commiſſioners hereby appointed, the ſum of fifteen ſhillings for each day they ſhall ſo ſit on the ſaid buſineſs, out of the treaſury of this commonwealth, and ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence ſhall be paid to the ſaid commiſſioners on every certificate by them granted, by the party in whoſe favor it is granted.

N. B. There were ſeveral things in this bill, with reſpect to the propriety of which I was not perfectly certain, but they might be the ſubject of conſideration with the houſe. To negative the bill wholly, ſo that we could have a board of property under no ſhape, was what I did not expect from Findley.

However, ſuch were the arguments I uſed, that they acknowledged themſelves convinced of the propriety of it, and gave me a report in its favor. It was as follows:

"The committee on the motion for appointing a board of commiſſioners of property in the weſtern parts of the ſtate, to hear and determine caveats entered in the land office on ſurveys, report,

That as from the great diſtance of the three weſtern counties of Fayette, Weſtmoreland and Waſhington, from the ſeat of government, it may be inconvenient to the inhabitants of the counties to attend in this city, on the hearing and determining on caveats, ſo entered, the committee offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill appointing a board of commiſſioners for the three counties of Fayette, Weſtmoreland, and Waſhington, to ſit in ſome one place in the ſaid counties, to hear and determine on caveats entered, where the parties reſide within the ſaid counties."

This report being read, was ordered to lie on the table.

A ſhort time after I called for a ſecond reading of this report. I had no doubt but all the weſtern members, with what intereſt they could make, would be in favor of the report. I believe the greater part of them were in favor of it. However, the queſtion was loſt by a ſmall majority.

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immediately opposed in time the violences that were going to be committed. Calm is now restored by the imprisonment of some of the rioters. It is thought, however, that this event will occasion some delay in the resolution, by which, it was expected, that the new regulation would be established very soon.

"This week the states of Holland will be wholly taken up with the nomination of the commissaries for the mediation of the affairs of Utrecht. The conditions proposed by the body of burghers of the said city have appeared equitable, and it does not seem that the states of Holland intend to make any alteration therein. Whether the states of Amersfort will acquiesce to them, is what remains to be known. The city of Leyden is destined, in petto, for the conferences.

"The prince openly braves, at Nimeguen, the storm that has so long threatened in vain to burst over his head: surrounded by the little court formed in that city, consisting mostly of the nobles of Guelders, he laughs, as he should, at the efforts of his enemies: and expects from time, and the ancient attachment of the nation, an effectual revolution in his favor. This security embarrasses very much the patriotic chiefs, and occasions a very disagreeable slowness in the dispatch of general affairs. That good countenance will force the states of Holland *to cut the evil to the quick*; but that is (it is said) what the friends of the house of Orange wait for.

"The affair of Rotterdam assumes a new face every day, more embroiled and intricate than before."

A letter from Petersburgh, dated Dec. 18, says, "Accounts are received from capt. Ismayloff, governor of Kamschacka, that two armed ships, under English colours, from the coast of America, with a cargo of furs, were put into the island of Metmi; that on their arrival they were not allowed to land or even traffic for fresh provisions, but after making the prince some presents of European articles, they had entered into a league of friendship with him for the carrying on a traffic with the Japanese for the disposal of their cargoes, which chiefly consisted of furs; that before the sloop which brought the intelligence sailed from Metmi, they had made several voyages to the coast of Japan, and met with great success; that they were preparing to leave some of their people on the island, to whom the prince had promised protection; and had actually bethrothed one of his daughters to the supercargo, who was to be left on the island as commander of the party, for carrying on a correspondence with the Japanese and Kurile islands."

Doctor Prevost, one of the American bishops, was bred in the university of Cambridge, has a large acquaintance in this country, by whom he is much esteemed, and has the general character of being a man of learning and moderation.

Ethan Allen, who was in the Provincial service during the war, we hear, has dipped his red coat in black of the deepest Tartarian dye, being now not only a preacher, but the author of a large octavo volume, containing a new system of Deism of the most pernicious tendency.

Feb. 6. A letter from Paris, dated Jan. 28, says, "I have just time to tell you that Mons. le Comte de Vergennes is at this instant on the point of death. Such a place as his cannot long remain vacant, and a successor is already mentioned. The duke de la Vauguyon's sudden return from Madrid, points him out to many, to all, indeed, who pretend to a little knowledge in politics, as the person on whom the king has fixed his choice. The most surprising part of my information is the report now current, and generally credited, that the duchess de Polignac, that woman who has so long enjoyed the eclat and honors of favoritism, has been chassee, literally, expelled from court. If this, as I do assure you there is little or no doubt of it, is confirmed, there is more in the event than readily meets comprehension, especially in the present circumstances."

Feb. 9. Tuesday his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was initiated into the mysteries of free-masonry, at the Star and Garter, Pall-Mall. His Royal Highness the duke of Cumberland as Grand-Master, the duke of Norfolk, the duke of Manchester, and several other noblemen of that order, assisted at the ceremony, and afterwards spent the evening there.

Advices from Stockholm mention the arrival there of an ambassador extraordinary from Berlin, to negociate a treaty of amity between the two sovereigns of Prussia and Sweden.

Extract of a letter from the Hague, Feb. 1.

"It is the opinion of most people here that an entire reconciliation will soon take place between the Prince of Orange and the States General, as overtures have been proposed for that purpose, which both parties seem very inclinable to accede to; and for this desirable arrangement the celebrated sieur Fagal has been some time at Loo, and had several conferences with the prince on that subject. This negociation has been commenced from the interference of the king of Prussia, who very warmly espouses the cause and interest of the Stadtholder, and has offered to act as a mediator between him and the states, and it is even affirmed that an offer of the same nature has been made from the court of Versailles.

Mr. Hastings is now in London, and waiting with apparent coolness and philosophy, the issue of an impeachment. The next article which Mr. Burke brings forward on Thursday, relates to the princesses of Oude.

Feb. 12. In the house of commons, on Friday, sir Gilbert Elliot gave notice, that he would on the first open day, submit to the house a motion on the conduct of sir Elijah Impey, during his residence in India as chief justice. Mr. Burke also gave notice of introducing his next article of impeachment against Mr. Hastings.

Feb. 14. A new coinage of silver has been just completed at the mint, viz 74,000l. in shillings, which are from a beautiful die, by Pingo; the head is a striking likeness of his present majesty; the reverse is unlike that of all former coins in this country; having a crown between each angle of the armorial shield, and the star and garter in the centre.

A correspondent observes, it is strange that the new coined shilling---should display an increase of crowns; especially, as by the loss of America, the empire is diminished.

The four regiments of foot, which had been ordered for Ireland, and countermanded, have received orders still to continue under preparation to embark for foreign service. One of them (complete both officers and men) we hear is to go to Quebec, to reinforce the garrisons in the province of Canada, according to a request which has been received from lord Dorchester, the governor general of the British dominions in North-America, who has written home by a late conveyance, signifying, that in the present situation of affairs, and the deranged state of the government of the United States of America, in that quarter, it is highly necessary all the British posts should be complete.

Feb. 15. The following conduct of the king of Naples is worthy of record: On the second of January last, a German merchant made a proposal to establish a tobacco farm at Naples, and offered to pay a considerable sum annually into the royal treasury, for the exclusive privilege. The merchant's plan being laid before the king, his majesty ordered the German schemer to be informed, "That he would not suffer his subjects to be under fiscal laws, or his treasury to be an associate in the profits of individuals."

American Occurrences.

CHARLESTON, (S. C.) March 23.

A number of fugitive slaves have armed and embodied themselves in the swamps contiguous to Savannah river, and have committed divers outrages and depredations in the vicinity of Purysburgh. Governor Pinckney has issued a proclamation and offered a reward of ten pounds sterling for each of these slaves, killed or taken in the state.

BOSTON, April 2.

In the Newport Herald of the 20th ult. is published the history of a fracas, which happened not long since, between his excellency John Collins of Rhode-Island, and Jacob Richardson, esq; postmaster for the district of Newport; and which it appears was occasioned by Mr. R's refusing to deliver any letters directed to the governor, unless the postage was first paid in solid coin, in conformity to a resolution of Congress, directing postmasters not to receive paper money for postage. Two letters, it seems, were brought to the post office, addressed to the governor, who sent his son for them, but without any money, and Mr. R. refused to deliver them. The governor then appeared in person, and from Mr. R's son received the letters, but was told by him, that his fathers orders were that no letters should go from the office without being paid for---the governor told him to call his father, and Mr. R. appeared. His excellency told Mr. R. he had got the letters, and that he would see the postage paid. The postmaster not chusing to trust him, took the letters out of his hand---this irritated the governor, who called Mr. R. a scoundrel and rascal, and threatened him with a drubbing, if he would come out of the office; but Mr. R. did not go out, and his excellency moved off slowly. On the information of the governor, the assembly took up the matter, and after hearing his excellency's complaint, cited Mr. R. before them; and by a stretch of power, to be found only in Algiers and Rhode-Island, he was obliged to sign a paper; asking pardon of the governor and the assembly; which finished the business. From such a government, or rather 'no government'---and from despots, such as these, we pray God to deliver us.

ALBANY, March 8.

On Friday the 23d ult. a dog was observed at the Half Moon, about 14 miles above this city, carrying the head of a man in his mouth. On searching for the body, it was discovered at the root of a tree, with a cord hanging across one of its largest branches above the body, the cord had been very recently cut, tho' the body, from its appearance, had been at the place five or six months. It was the prevailing opinion that he had been strangled, and the head afterwards severed from the body by cutting. A few Saxon and Polish coins were found in his watch coat; and, from some papers about him, it appeared that his name was Christian Frederick Jang, and that he was born in the city of Leipsic in Saxony.

NEW-YORK, March 15.

Yesterday, in the house of assembly, colonel Hamilton moved for leave to bring in a bill "to authorise the delegates of this state in Congress, to accede to, ratify and confirm the independence and sovereignty of the people inhabiting the district of the country commonly called Vermont. Leave was granted, and colonel Hamilton brought in the bill accordingly.

April 19. Accounts from the Havanna mention, that the public letters announce a general insurrection of the Indians in the neighbourhood of Carthagena, and that several detachment of forces sent to quell them were entirely cut off, and that it was expected a considerable naval and land reinforcement would be immediately sent to Cuba for that quarter.

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.

Accounts from North-Carolina say, a law has passed which enacts, that no more than one lawyer, shall for the future, speak for each party, in any court of the state. By the same law the jurisdiction of justices of the peace, out of court, has been extended to all sums not exceeding twenty pounds.

On Sunday the 4th of February last, died, in the 103d year of his, Jacob Wismer, a native of Germany. In Queen's Ann's reign he emigrated into North Carolina, where he lived ten years; he then came and settled in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where he married his third wife, with whom he lived 67 years, and had 170 children, grand children, and great grand children; his widow is about 84 years old. He retained his senses till about two months, and could walk out, dress and undress himself, till about two weeks before he died.

Pittsburgh, May 12.

On the 13th of April, the United States in Congress assembled, passed a resolution, recommending it to the different states to repeal all their laws, now in force, which are inconsistent with the treaty of peace between the United States of America and the king of Great-Britain.

The Translator of the Marquis de Chartellux's Travels, gives the following Character of Dr. Franklin.

The illustrious and amiable character of Dr. Franklin is far beyond my praise. To have known him; to have been a frequent witness to the distinguished acts of his great mind; to have been in a situation to learn, and to admire his comprehensive views and benevolent motives; to have heard the profound maxims of wise philosophy and sound politics, drop from his lips with all the unaffected simplicity of the most indifferent conversation; to have heard him deviate from the depths of reason, and adopt his instructive discourse to the capacity and temper of the young and gay; to have enjoyed, in short, the varied luxuries of his delightful society is a subject of triumph and consolation; of which nothing can deprive. He too, as well as the envious and interested enemies of this transcendent merit, must drop from off the scene; but his name is inscribed in indelible characters on the immortal roll of philosophy and freedom, for the *ardentia verba* of the most honest advocates of freedom of the present age.

A CURE for the AGUE.

TAKE as much flour of brimstone as will cover half a dollar piece, moisten it to a paste with lemon juice, mix it with a glass of rum or port wine, and take it as the fit comes on. This has been seldom known to fail in effecting a cure.

WHEREAS a Mr. Richard Graham, who was a deputy surveyor, surveyed a tract of land for the subscriber; for which he gave him a promissory note for about four pounds, and the said survey being rejected by the surveyor general was therefore useless to the subscriber. Notice is hereby given, that the subscriber will not pay said note unless compelled by law.

May 5. 1787 JAMES SMITH.

Juſt opened and to be ſold by the ſubſcriber living on the bank of the river, between Mr. David Duncan's and Mr. John Ormſby's.

A LARGE *and general aſſortment of* DRY *and* WET GOODS, *which he will diſpoſe of on the moſt reaſonable terms for caſh, country produce, peltry or ginſeng.* JOHN GIBSON.

POST-OFFICE,
Philadelphia, March 2, 1787.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT in conſequence of a contract entered into for that purpoſe, there will ſhortly be a regular communication by poſt, between the town of Alexandria, in Virginia, and Pittſburg, in this ſtate, by the route of New-Gate, Leeſburgh, Wincheſter, Fort Cumberland, and Bedford. The mail will be carried weekly from May 1ſt to November 1ſt: and once a fortnight the remainder of the year. This eſtabliſhment will take place, as ſoon as the neceſſary arrangements can be made.

If any perſon inclines to form a more direct communication between this city and Fort-Pitt, by carrying a mail regularly from this office to Bedford, ſo as to tally with the Virginia poſt, that route may now be contracted for upon advantageous terms---as the excluſive privilege of carrying letters and packets for hire, between this city and Bedford, and all the emoluments ariſing therefrom, will be granted for any term, not exceeding ſeven years, to any perſon undertaking the buſineſs at his own expence, and giving ſatisfactory ſecurity for performance.

GEORGE TUDOR,

BROKER,

At his office on the north ſide of Cheſnut-ſtreet, five doors above Fourth-ſtreet, Philadelphia.

BUYS, ſells, and exchanges every kind of continental and ſtate paper, or public ſecurities of this ſtate or any other in the union. Furniſhes certificates and ſtate money for the land office, on as reaſonable terms as can be afforded. Procures money on loan to any amount, provided the ſecurity is ſatisfactory; and every kind of transferable property, real and perſonal, diſpoſed of to the beſt advantage.

The different branches of the buſineſs of a broker are tranſacted with fidelity, diſpatch, and punctuality equal to any other broker.

TO BE LET,
And entered on immediately, for ſuch a term as may be agreed on.

PART of that excellent and well improved plantation, known by the name of DIRTY CAMP, lying on the Pennſylvania road, about fourteen miles from the town of Pittſburgh, containing, by eſtimation, about 90 acres of well cleared land, and under good fence, 40 acres of which are fine meadow and paſture, greateſt part of which may be watered; the tillage lands are deep and very fine for corn, or other grain. Any ſober induſtrious perſon inclined to rent the above land, may apply to

SAMUEL M'KAY.

Pittſburgh, April 19.

N. B. Any perſons inclined to make a ſettlement on unimproved lands, but eaſily cleared, will meet with great encouragement by applying as above.

WHEREAS Mr. Iſaac Craig of this place, pretended to have a title to a lot No. 256, on the corner of Short ſtreet, and now in my poſſeſſion; and as the ſaid Iſaac Craig may perhaps ſell to ſome perſon ignorant of my claim, I hereby inform the public that I conceive myſelf to have the beſt title to the ſaid lot, and that I ſhall hold it until I am put out by courſe of law.

DAVID DUNCAN.

Pittſburgh, March 8, 1787.

JUST opening at the Store of the ſubſcriber in Pittſburgh, a complete cargo of Weſt-India Goods, of the firſt quality, and other Groceries, to which will be ſhortly added, a general aſſortment of Dry Goods, as uſual, all which will be ſold on the moſt reaſonable terms for caſh, or any kind of country produce, at market price.

James O'Hara.

January 24, 1787.

AN OFFICE

For the Purchaſe and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Alſo Houſes, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the eaſt ſide of Second ſtreet, between Market and Cheſnut ſtreets, ſeven doors below Black Horſe-alley, Philadelphia. Who furniſhes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commiſſion.

All applications and orders from perſons reſiding in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchaſes or ſales, payments in the land office, or to receive intereſt at the continental loan office or ſtate treaſury.

CERTIFICATES for the LAND-OFFICE

MAY *be had of the ſubſcriber, at his office on the north ſide of Market-ſtreet, two doors below Fourth ſtreet and directly oppoſite that part of the market lately built, where every perſon applying may be furniſhed with the exact ſum they may have occaſion for in the land-office, and their warrants carried through without any other charge than the fees of the different offices, by*

THOMAS FORREST.

Who buys and ſells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this ſtate, or any of the United States.

Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.

The Famous HORSE

EXPERIMENT,

WILL cover this ſeaſon, at the ſtable of the ſubſcriber living in Pittſburgh, at the low rate of ſix dollars the ſeaſon; three dollars the ſingle leap: and two buſhels of oats: or twelve dollars for enſuring a colt.

Experiment was bred by Col. William Churchill, in Middleſex, old Virginia; his ſire King Herod, who was got by old Fearnought, out of the high bred imported mare Kitty Fiſher; his dam by Othello; his grand dam by Childers; his great grand dam by the imported horſe Dancing Maſter.

THOMAS PARKER.

N. B. Good paſture may be had convenient and reaſonable.

The Famous HORSE

DOVE,

WILL cover this ſeaſon at the ſtable of the ſubſcriber, living in Pittſburgh, at the low rate of Four Dollars and one buſhel of oats, or Two Dollars the ſingle leap; the ſeaſon continues until the laſt of June.

Dove was got by Old Dove, out of the Wildair Mare, which were imported in one ſhip. It is needleſs to give a genealogy of his being full blooded, or half or quarter blooded; but his figure and breed are much eſteemed in the parts from whence he was brought, where he got many colts, which, it is allowed, will be equal to himſelf, and his dropping colts will ſhew more at large, as he covered here laſt year.

DANIEL BRITT & CO.
Have for Sale, a General Aſſortment of
MERCHANDIZE,

WHICH will be Sold on reaſonable Terms for Caſh, Flour, Whiſky, Beef, Pork, Bacon, Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Aſhes, Candlewick, Tallow, &c &c.

Pittſburgh, July 28.

DANIEL BRITT & Co. once more call on thoſe indebted to the late houſe of Craig, Bayard & Co. to come and ſettle their accounts, as they need not expect any further lenity.

Pittſburgh, Dec. 20, 1786.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber about the firſt of April, a black Mare, about fourteen and an half hands high, branded W S on the near ſhoulder, has three ſmall ſaddle marks. The owner is deſired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take her away.

April 27. JOHN METZGER.

Juſt Publiſhed, and to be ſold, wholeſale and retail, by the printers hereof,

THE

A, B, C.

WITH THE

Shorter Catechiſm,

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
Some SHORT and EASY QUESTIONS for CHILDREN.

WHEREAS a certain Andrew Robertſon of the town of Pittſburg, obtained two notes of hand dated the 25th January 1787, and payable the firſt of this month (April) the one for ſeventy pounds, to be paid in country produce, the other for thirty pounds to be paid in ſpecie. And ſince I gave the aforeſaid notes to the ſaid Robertſon, I find he has given an aſſignment of the one for ſeventy pounds. I hereby forwarn any perſon to take an aſſignment on the one for thirty pounds, as I am determined not to pay it, until the ſaid Andrew Robertſon fulfils an engagement entered into, in conſequence of which he obtained the above mentioned notes from me.

WILDAY TAYLOR.

Duncard Bottom, April 27, 1787.

FOR SALE, BY

ROBERT BROWN,

At the houſe of Mr. James Chambers, in Pittſburgh.

A General aſſortment of pot metal and iron; alſo a quantity of dry goods, rum, wine, and ſalt, which will be ſold on the loweſt terms for caſh or country produce.

N. B. Ginſeng wanted, for which half will be given in caſh and the other half in goods.

Spelling Books,

By the dozen or ſingle one, may be had at the printing-office.

CLAIMS againſt the UNITED STATES.
Office of accounts, Marine Department, New-York January 1, 1787.

ALL perſons having claims againſt the United States, for ſervices performed, or articles ſupplied, in the Marine Department, are hereby notified, that unleſs their accounts are ſpeedily ſent to this office, they will be precluded from any ſettlement as a day will ſhortly be fixed, after which no claims will be received.

BENJAMIN WALKER, Commiſſioner.

The ſeveral printers throughout the United States, are requeſted to inſert the above in their papers.

WHEREAS a certain Peter Berikman did obtain a bond from the ſubſcriber, dated in the month of November, 1784, and reads payable the 1ſt of November 1787, it being in part pay for a tract of land the ſubſcriber bought of ſaid Berikman: I do hereby forwarn any perſon from taking an aſſignment of ſaid bond, as there is a conſiderable quantity of the land ſold to me which I cannot obtain, and I do not intend paying for any more than I hold, without I am compelled by law.

ALEXANDER M'CLURE.

April 7, 1787.

WHEREAS ſome evil deſigning perſon or perſons have propagated reports injurious to the characters of the ſubſcriber and his family, he now calls on any ſuch perſon or perſons to come forward and ſupport any charges which they may lay againſt them, as they are ready at any time to have their characters enquired into. But hereafter ſhould any perſon or perſons dare to aſſert any thing injurious to their characters, he will proſecuted him or them to the utmoſt rigor of the law.

FRANCIS M'ELWAINE.

April 20, 1787.

N. B. It is hoped the public will not credit any reports they may hear, as it is only done through envy and malice.